



Department of State  
TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 STATE 139940

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 10-13 ADP-00 PRS-01 AF-10 H-03 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 PA-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IGA-02 AID-20 DODE-00 PC-04

AGR-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-11 /162 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS:CMH

7/17/73 X20448

APPROVED BY NEA/P:JEBRIGGS

S/PRS:CBRAY (INFO)

IO/P:FBLACHLY

AF/P:BRUSSELL

H:KFOLGER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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E.O. 11650: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL

EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JULY 17,

1973:

PAGE 02 STATE 139940

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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FOR EC OF NA CHAIRMAN

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Q. I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT AFGHANISTAN, AND WHAT EFFECT THE REPORTED COUP THERE WILL HAVE UPON OUR AID PROGRAM AND OUR RELATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN GENERALLY?

A. WELL, IN TERMS OF THE GENERAL SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN, AS USUAL, YOU KNOW AS MUCH ABOUT IT, READING THE VARIOUS PRESS REPORTS COMING OUT OF KABUL AS WE DO HERE. AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THE SITUATION WHICH EXISTS THERE. WE ARE, OF COURSE, FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY FURTHER COMMENTS TO ADD AT THIS TIME.

Q. DO WE HAVE TO CONSIDER NEW DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION FOR AFGHANISTAN?

A. I THINK IT IS A BIT TOO EARLY TO TALK ABOUT THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION?

Q. IS THIS SOMETHING THAT THE LEGAL EAGLES ARE STUDYING?

A. WELL, THIS IS OF VERY RECENT ORIGIN, THIS PARTICULAR SITUATION, AND I JUST CAN'T SAY IF IN FACT ANYBODY IS EVEN LOOKING AT THE QUESTION AS OF THIS MOMENT.

Q. WHAT IS THE SIZE OF THE AID PROGRAM?

A. ROUGHLY, ALL IN, THAT INCLUDES PEACE CORPS, PL480 AND AID -- FOR FISCAL YEAR 1973, IT COMES TO APPROXIMATELY 36.6 MILLION DOLLARS.

Q. WHAT WAS THE YEAR?

A. FISCAL YEAR 1973.

Q. HAVE YOU STILL GOT THE AID PROGRAM CONTINUING THEN?

A. THEY ARE WELL IN PLACE AND THE PEOPLE ARE STILL THERE, YES.

RUSH

PAGE 03 STATE 139940

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